

STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES & PUBLIC PROTECTION DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT & HOMELAND SECURITY



Posted at 4:05 PM on 10/31/13...

The National Weather Service has replaced the High Wind Watches in Middlesex and New London Counties with Wind Advisories. Wind Advisories have also been issued for New Haven County in Southern Connecticut and Hartford, Tolland and Windham Counties in Northern Connecticut. The advisories in Southern CT are in effect from 6:00 AM Friday morning to 4:00 PM Friday afternoon and the Advisories in Northern CT are in effect from 6:00 AM Friday morning to 6:00 PM Friday evening.

A low pressure system currently located over the Western Great Lakes is forecast to move slowly to the Northeast across the upper Great Lakes as it intensifies during the next 18 - 24 hours. As this storm moves to our west a strong high pressure system located east of Cape Cod is forecast to generate a tight pressure gradient between the two weather systems late tonight and during the day on Friday across most of New England. The following forecast is based on a blend of the GFS and NAM computer models:

For This Evening...South Southwest winds are expected to remain at 10 - 15 MPH with an occasional gust to 20 MPH between 5:00 - 9:00 PM with temperatures in the low to mid 60's across the area. Occasional rain showers are likely.

Overnight...South Southwest winds are forecast to begin increasing after midnight reaching 25 – 30 MPH with gusts to 45 MPH at times by 6:00 AM.

Friday...South Southwest winds accompanied by moderate rain at times (some roads may become slick with falling wet leaves during the morning rush hour) are forecast to continue through the morning with the potential for a few higher gusts to 50 MPH as a cold front crosses the State between 11:00 AM and 2:00 PM. The strongest winds are expected along the coast and in the higher elevations. The winds are then forecast to shift to the West after the cold front passes our area and slowly subside Friday evening.

The impact of the strong winds is expected to result in a minor to locally moderate number of power outages across the state. Most towns should see scattered power outages with a few towns experiencing a moderate impact with multiple outages. Rainfall is not expected to be a threat with this storm (around 1/2 - 3/4") and soils are fairly dry across the state. The dry soil combined with the leaves being off many trees in Northern and Central CT should help to reduce the impact of the event somewhat in those areas.

The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security will continue to monitor the latest forecasts and will send out additional updates if changes occur to the forecast or additional advisories or warnings are issued by the National Weather Service.